

**DPM: Anwar's influence in Indonesia not as great as it has been made out to be**  
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**By NELSON BENJAMIN**

NUSA DUA (Bali): Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin does not believe that the Indonesian Government and political leaders will be easily influenced by the propaganda of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said the Opposition Leader's influence in the republic was not as great as it had been made out to be.

Muhyiddin said Indonesian leaders were well informed of the political climate in Malaysia and they acknowledged the long-standing close bilateral relations with the country.

Bernama quoted Muhyiddin as telling Malaysian journalists yesterday: "The situation is not as it is portrayed by him (Anwar), that he is highly influential in Indonesia. He does not get much space in the local media to show that what he is doing is something great".

Muhyiddin is on a six-day visit to Indonesia to enhance bilateral relations and discuss issues which stand in the way of people-to-people ties.

On Tuesday, Muhyiddin met Indonesian vice-president Boediono, Golkar chairman Aburizal Bakrie, Democratic Party chairman Annas Urbaningrum and Indonesian Democratic Party-Struggle chairman Megawati Sukarnoputeri.

The deputy Umno president also led a party delegation in talks with Indonesian political leaders.

In JOHOR BARU, Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi likened the opposition to "blood thirsty draculas".

He said they had tasted power in a few states and now hoped to wrest control of Johor from Barisan Nasional.

"Every week, their top leaders are here trying to make inroads but I am confident that the people will not be hoodwinked.

"I am confident that Johor will continue to be an Umno stronghold and a fixed deposit state for Barisan," he added when opening the Pasir Gudang Umno division meeting yesterday.

Zahid, who is Defence Minister, said the opposition kept on making new promises while leaving previous pledges unfulfilled.

He hoped that the state leaders would do their best to not only retain Barisan seats but also get back constituencies lost in 2008.

Barisan holds 25 of the 26 parliamentary constituencies and 50 of the 56 state seats in Johor.

Zahid also hit out at Anwar, saying he was trying to tarnish the country's image internationally, especially in Indonesia.

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